

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /076 W
-----055955 260244Z /61

R 251605Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8729
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 14172

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, EG, UR
SUBJ: SOME COMMENTS RE CONTROVERSIAL CZECH TANK DEAL

1. EAST GERMAN AMB DR HANS-JOACHIM RADDE, WHO HAS BEEN REASSIGNED TO FORNMINISTRY IN BERLIN, PAID FAREWELL CALL YESTERDAY. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION, HE MENTIONED SADAT'S CURRENT DISPLEASURE WITH CZECHS FOR DELIVERING ONLY 30 OUT OF 240 TANKS ORDERED FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND ALREADY PAID FOR IN HARD CURRENCY. RADDE, WHO IS ACTIVE MEMBER OF EASTERN BLOC AMBASSADORS, CLAIMED THAT PRINCIPAL REASON FOR DELAY IN CZECH TANK DELIVERIES IS PRODUCTION PROBLEMS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS PLAY A PART IN EASTERN BLOC WEAPONS DELIVERIES, BUT SOUGHT TO DISCOUNT THIS ASPECT IN CONNECTION WITH CZECH DEAL. HE OPINED ALL OF THE CZECH TANKS WILL IN DUE COURSE BE DELIVERED.

2. FAHMY ALSO TOLD ME TODAY THAT CZECH AMB HAD SOUGHT TO EXPLAIN THAT PRODUCTION DIFFICULTIES HAVE CAUSED DELAYS IN PROMISED TANK DELIVERIES. HE HAD REMINDED CZECH AMB THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAD AGREED TO SPECIFIC DELIVERY DATES WHEN SIGNING CONTRACT. EVEN IF PRODUCTION DIFFICULTIES DEVELOPED, FAHMY
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HAD INSISTED, CZECHS HAVE OBLIGATION TAKE TANKS FROM THEIR WARSAW PACT MILITARY INVENTORY. THE TANKS ORDERED ARE NOT NEW T-60S OR T-72S, FAHMY NOTED, BUT OLD T-54S AND T-55S. CZECHS COULD AFFORD TO TAKE THESE FROM THEIR MILITARY STOCKS, SINCE THESE TANKS WILL IN ANY CASE SHORTLY BE REPLACED WITH NEWER MODELS.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 25-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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